

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 05555 291547Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 /057 W
-----023192 291557Z /53

R 281946Z MAR 78 ZEL
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7102
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 05555

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, BQG
SUBJECT: STOBBE'S ROLE AS PRESIDENT OF BUNDESRAT

REFS: (A) BONN 3986, (B) STATE 38283, (C) BONN 898

1. AT THE MARCH 21 BONN GROUP MEETING, THE US REP REPORTED AS INSTRUCTED (REFS B AND C). THE FRENCH REP (RICHARD) SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE TWO PRIOR PRECEDENTS (SCHUETZ AND BRANDT), THE QUAI HAD NO OBJECTION TO STOBBE'S ELECTION BUT SAW THAT THERE MIGHT BE PROBLEMS WITH THE SOVIETS. THE UK REP (EYERS), ON INSTRUCTIONS, CONFIRMED THAT THE UK HAD NO OBJECTION BUT THAT THE FCO CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT FOR THE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS TO OFFER THE LEAST POSSIBLE SCOPE FOR A SOVIET CLAIM OF VIOLATIONS OF THE QA. THE FCO BELIEVED THAT STOBBE SHOULD EXERCISE DISCRETION AND THAT HIS FUNCTIONS AS ACTING FRG PRESIDENT SHOULD BE CAREFULLY REVIEWED, E.G.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 05555 291547Z

HE SHOULD NOT SIGN LAWS WHICH CANNOT BE EXTENDED TO BERLIN. THE LATTER EXAMPLE EYERS TERMED A PRESENTATIONAL POINT.

2. FRG REP (VON BRAUNMUEHL) EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND SATISFACTION AND SAID THIS SHOWS THE FRG AND THE ALLIES CONTINUE ON COMMON GROUND. WHEN STOBBE IS ACTING FRG

PRESIDENT, THE FRG FAVORS THE STRICT OBSERVANCE AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE QA AND BELIEVES THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF POLITICAL WISDOM MUST ALSO BE OBSERVED.

3. VON BRAUNMUEHL DISTRIBUTED THE FIRST PART OF A STUDY THE FRG HAS PREPARED ON THE PRACTICES OBSERVED IN THE PAST BY PRESIDENTS OF THE BUNDESRAT WHEN THEY ARE ACTING FRG PRESIDENT. COPIES ARE BEING POUCHED TO USBER AND THE DEPARTMENT (EUR/CE). IN GENERAL, THE STUDY SHOWS THAT THE MEN WHO HAVE HELD THE OFFICE NORMALLY PLANNED NO EVENTS IN THE PERIOD WHEN THEY WERE ACTING FRG PRESIDENT AND DID NOT ACCEPT INVITATIONS WHICH WERE ADDRESSED TO THE FRG PRESIDENT. WITH RESPECT TO LEGISLATION, THE ACTING PRESIDENT SIGNS THOSE BILLS WHICH REQUIRE URGENT ACTION AND THOSE WHICH ARE MERELY ROUTINE. OTHER LEGISLATION IS HELD FOR THE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE.

4. IN ANSWER TO THE DEPARTMENT'S QUESTIONS IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF REF B, STOBBE WILL BE ELECTED BY THE BUNDESRAT IN OCTOBER AND SERVE FOR ONE YEAR FROM NOVEMBER 1. AS NOTED ABOVE, HE WILL DEFER DOING SOME OF THE THINGS WHICH THE PRESIDENT DOES. WHERE THE ABSENCE OF THE FRG PRESIDENT IS FORESEEABLE (E.G. VACATION, TRIPS ABROAD), NO OCCASIONS ARE ORDINARILY PLANNED WHICH THE PRESIDENT WOULD NORMALLY ATTEND. IN CASES WHICH ARE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 05555 291547Z

NOT FORESEEN (E.G. CATASTROPHES, DEATHS OF FOREIGN STATESMEN) OR ARE INEVITABLE (NATIONAL DAYS, BIRTHDAYS OF STATESMEN) THE ACTING PRESIDENT SENDS MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE OR CONGRATULATIONS. REGARDING PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS, THE CUSTOM APPEARS TO BE TO DELAY THEM WHEN THE PRESIDENT IS ONLY TEMPORARILY INCAPACITATED BUT, IF A LONG DELAY IS FORESEEN, TO HAVE THE ACTING PRESIDENT ACCEPT THEM. NEITHER THE PRESIDENT NOR THE ACTING PRESIDENT ACCEPT INVITATIONS BY FOREIGN EMBASSIES TO NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS IN BONN. STOESEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN05555
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780136-0495
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780320/aaaaaqks.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 765a81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BONN 3986, 78 STATE 38283, 78 BONN 898
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3190074
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STOBBE'S ROLE AS PRESIDENT OF BUNDES RAT
TAGS: PGOV, GC, BQG, (STOBBE, DIETRICH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/765a81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014